

# SPORT FISHING

## *Emergency Order*

ALASKA DEPARTMENT  
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 1-25-02

Issued at Sitka, Monday July 22, 2002

Effective 12:01 A.M. Wednesday  
Date: July 24, 2002

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Tuesday, December  
31, 2002. Unless superseded by a subsequent  
emergency order.

### EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes Klag Bay north of 57 ° 37'38.9" North Latitude and the Klag Bay Lake drainage to retention and possession of sockeye salmon by sport anglers from July 24 through December 31, 2002.

### REGULATION:

5 AAC 47.022 (208) and (209) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective:

### 5 AAC 47.022. WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

(1) 5 AAC 47.022 WATER	SEASON AND BAG LIMIT						SPECIAL PROVISIONS
	King Salmon	Other Salmon	Trout/ Steelhead	Dolly Varden	Halibut/ Lingcod	Other Fish/Shell fish	
(208) Klag Bay Lake Drainage	Closed	1D <sup>1</sup>	1M, 1R	1I		1S	<sup>1</sup> Sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained.
(209) Klag Bay north of the latitude of Rose Island (57° 37' 38.99")	1A	1D <sup>1</sup>	1L, 1R	1I	3J, 4K	1S, 1T	<sup>1</sup> Sockeye salmon may not be possessed or retained.

### JUSTIFICATION:

Sockeye salmon escapement at Klag Bay Lake has been counted through a weir since June 10, 2002. The total escapement to date is 15 sockeye salmon and, based on reported harvest timing and weir data, represents about 15% to 50% of the expected escapement. Subsistence harvests reported on permit returns for Klag Bay have ranged from 23 to 3,381 since monitoring began in 1985. Observed subsistence fishing effort and harvest in 2002 has been high. As a result, subsistence harvest at Klag Bay, if left unrestricted, will likely far exceed historical reported levels of harvest and jeopardize the sustainability of this sockeye population. Sport fishing for sockeye also occurs at Klag Bay and, based on estimates for the Sitka area, effort and harvest is

low relative to the subsistence fishery. However, because of the low projected escapement, a closure of the sport fishery is necessary to protect the Klag Bay Lake sockeye population. Action is also being taken to close the subsistence fishery at Klag Bay.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907)465-4270, and at the Sitka Area Office, 304 Lake Street, Sitka, AK 99835, (907)747-5355.